

Message Text

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72

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS VIENNA 8962

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: POLISH OPENING STATEMENT,
OCTOBER 30, 1973

1. THE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF OPENING STATEMENT
DELIVERED BY POLISH REP (TADEUSZ STRULAK) AT THE
MBFR OPENING PLENARY SESSION ON AFTERNOON OF
OCTOBER 30, 1973.

BEGIN TEXT:

AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
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TO THE NEGOTIATIONS ON MUTUAL REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARM-

AMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE I AM PLEASED, INDEED, TO TAKE THE FLOOR ON THIS OCCASION. IT IS PARTICULARLY PLEASANT TO SEE ROUND THIS TABLE FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES WITH WHOM WE ESTABLISHED, DURING THE PREPARATORY CONSULTATIONS, GOOD WORKING AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP, SO HELPFUL IN OUR WORK.

WE HAVE COME TO VIENNA AGAIN, HAVING BEHIND US THE FRUITFUL WORK DONE IN THE COURSE OF PREPARATORY CONSULTATIONS WHICH -AS WE ALL EVALUATED - HAD BEEN CONDUCTED IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT. WE HAVE ALREADY HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR SATISFACTION WITH THE RESULTS ACHIEVED AT THE CONSULTATIONS. TO-DAY, AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS, IT IS PROPER TO SAY ONCE MORE THAT THESE RESULTS PROVIDE A SOLID BASIS FOR THE DISCUSSION ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROBLEMS OF REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE - THAT WE SHALL BE FACING, AND FOR THE SOLUTIONS TO BE FOUND. I WISH TO REFER, IN PARTICULAR, TO THE UNDERSTANDING ON THE POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS OF THE FUTURE AGREEMENTS, THE UNDERSTANDING WHICH DETERMINES THE TERRITORIAL FRAMEWORK OF CENTRAL EUROPE FOR THE REDUCTIONS AND INDICATES THE COUNTRIES WHOSE FORCES THESE MEASURES ARE TO ENCOMPASS.

THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY, TO WHICH WE HAVE ALL SUBSCRIBED, ALLOWS US TO HOPE FOR POSITIVE RESULTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, BASED ON RESPECT FOR REALITIES AND SECURITY INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT.

WE ASSUME THAT THE SUBJECT OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH RELATES TO THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS, IS THE AGREED ONE.

AGREED ALSO IS THE SUBORDINATION OF THESE TALKS TO THE WIDER OBJECTIVE OF ENHANCED STABILITY, SECURITY AND PEACE IN EUROPE. WE ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE CONTRIBUTION THAT CAN AND, INDEED, SHOULD BE MADE TO THE ATTAINMENT OF THIS OBJECTIVE THROUGH MILITARY DETENTE IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

WE ARE CONSCIOUS, TOO, HOW VERY HELPFUL TO OUR WORK HERE IS THE CONTINUING PROCESS OF POLITICAL DETENTE, OF NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS ON OUR CONTINENT. IT IS NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY

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THAT THE CONVOCATION OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE HAS SERVED AS A POWERFUL BOOSTER TO THE CAUSE OF MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THE COMPLETION OF THE CONFERENCE'S ENDEAVOURS IN SETTING THE STANDARDS OF RELATIONS IN EUROPE COMMENSURATE TO THE ERA OF DETENTE WILL NO DOUBT BE NEEDED FOR OUR SUCCESS.

THE FAVOURABLE POLITICAL CLIMATE ON OUR CONTINENT AND IN

EAST-WEST RELATIONS AUGURS WELL FOR OUR ENTERPRISE HERE. IT IS FOR US TO MAKE FULL USE OF THIS CLIMATE, TO DIRECT OUR TALKS SO AS TO BRING ABOUT CONCRETE MEASURES IN THE FIELD OF REDUCTION OF TROOPS AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE WITH RESULTS BOTH VISIBLE AND MEANINGFUL TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE AGREEMENTS AS WELL AS FOR THE GENERAL POLITICAL SITUATION IN EUROPE. IN OUR VIEW, SUCH CONCRETE MEASURES WOULD HAVE TO COMPRISE BOTH NATIONAL AND FOREIGN TROOPS AS WELL AS ARMAMENTS, INCLUDING THE MOST DEVASTATING WEAPON SYSTEMS.

IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE POLISH DELEGATION TO ACTIVELY WORK IN FAVOUR OF SUCH MEASURES. OUR VITAL INTEREST IN THE FURTHERANCE OF THE CAUSE OF LASTING SECURITY AND COMPREHENSIVE COOPERATION IN EUROPE NEEDS NOT BE ELABORATED UPON. OUR LONG-STANDING ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT, TOGETHER WITH THAT OF OUR ALLIES, IN ACTIONS AIMED AT BRINGING ABOUT MILITARY DETENTE IN CENTRAL EUROPE IS KNOWN TO ALL. IT IS, THEREFORE, UNDERSTANDABLE THAT THE POLISH GOVERNMENT ATTACHES GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO THIS NEGOTIATING FORUM IN VIENNA WHICH, INDEED, IS AN UNPRECEDENTED ONE.

WE HAVE COME TO VIENNA WITH A HOPE AND THE WILL TO SEEK AND FIND SOLUTIONS IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH ALL OTHER DISTINGUISHED DELEGATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. WE CAN ASSURE YOU THAT WE SHALL DO OUR BEST TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUCCESS OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

THERE IS ONE MORE QUESTION WHICH, IN THE OPINION OF THE POLISH DELEGATION, SHOULD AGAIN BE RAISED AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR MEETINGS IN VIENNA. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT MANY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, OTHER THAN THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE TALKS ON THE UNCLASSIFIED

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REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE, DO DEMONSTRATE A VIVID INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE TALKS. HENCE, WE SHOULD LIKE TO RECALL AND REITERATE HERE OUR UNCHANGED POSITION AS TO THE RIGHT OF THOSE COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE, IN A CORRESPONDING WAY, IN THESE DISCUSSIONS.

BEFORE CONCLUDING, WILL YOU PERMIT ME, MR CHAIRMAN, TO JOIN MY PREDECESSORS IN THIS OPENING DEBATE TO WARMLY THANK THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT FOR ALL THE HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO US AND THEIR KIND ASSISTANCE. THANK YOU.

END TEXT.HUMES

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